

San Mateo Item.

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Editor and Prop.

SAN MATEO, FLORIDA

All bills for advertising are due after the first insertion unless otherwise contracted.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

One copy, one year \$1.00
One copy, six months50

Correspondence solicited from subscribers. Items regarding new enterprises in all sections of the country especially desired.

Non-subscribers receiving the San Mateo Item will please note that it is sent as a sample copy.

Our readers will oblige us when writing to parties advertising in this paper if they will state that they saw the advertisement in The San Mateo Item. This is little trouble and costs nothing, but it helps us, and is information wanted by the advertiser.

Entered at the postoffice at San Mateo, Fla., as second-class mail matter.

THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

Pre-cooling has been practiced for some time in California to prepare oranges for shipment by taking the heat out of the fruit and keeping it cool. It is regarded as giving better results than icing cars. It is also coming into use among Florida orange growers. The same process has been introduced at Starke for thoroughly chilling strawberries before sending the berries away.

Punta Gorda's shipment of fish on ice one week recently amounted to 565,000 pounds. That little city should prosper with its fisheries and fruit and vegetable interests.

There seems to be no end of the development of Tampa's cigar interests. Another new factory is to be erected there.

The Tenth Biennial report of the commissioner of agriculture is a bulky paper-bound volume of five hundred and ninety-seven pages, with which is bound the Florida Quarterly Bulletin of date of January 1, 1909, containing one hundred and sixty-one additional pages. As "agriculture," in the minds of our legislators, covers almost every imaginable subject of legislative interest, it follows that this report "has something in it suited to the taste of every reader," as some of the magazines say in their prospectus.

The trip from the Atlantic to the Gulf was recently made in a 30-horse power automobile with narrow tread wheels, by Mr. and Mrs. George L. Farrell and E. B. Case. The distance, two hundred and eleven miles, from Seabreeze and Daytona to the Tampa Bay hotel, was made in fifty hours. They found the roads good. Only one rough place was met with. This is the first time such a trip has been made.

A three hundred-pound jewfish recently captured at a Key West wharf had a large iron bolt in its jaw that would weigh several pounds.

The ocean beach from Ormond to Mosquito Inlet has been formally set apart as a public highway for speed tests and automobile races from March 22 to March 26 by the county commissioners of Volusia. This is done under the requirements of the laws of Florida and legalizes the famous races for this year.

The Duval county commissioners are resolved to immediately put in good condition so much of the road from Jacksonville to St. Augustine, Ormond and Daytona as lies within this county; and that the St. Johns county officials are doing what they can to have a good road through their county on the same line.

A number of Key Westers are interesting themselves in the formation of an "anti-treating" society. The best point about such societies, should they become general, is that a great step would be taken toward separating the involuntary from the voluntary drunkards.

Such competitions as that which Marion county farmers are to enter into this summer are the hope of Florida agriculture. Dr. J. C. Boozer of the Commercial bank at Ocala, is offering a cash prize, or prizes, for the best specimens of corn at the Marion county fair, to be held next December, and also agrees to furnish the seed. That ought to produce great results.

Judging from indications, the three homeseekers' excursions arranged by the railroads for March 16, April 6 and April 20, will bring a large number of passengers to this state on those dates. Starting from Chicago and picking up homeseekers at various points, these trains will be well loaded by the time they reach Jacksonville. The excursions from Ohio river points that were run during the early part of the winter will serve to advertise the later ones.

The "Dutch treat," or anti-treating, crusade has struck New York. It will soon extend to Florida cities. German-Americans are pushing this movement against the great American habit of "treating" and in favor of a sane method of drinking. The man who pays for his own drinks is not likely to get drunk. But if he does, he should be punished. But many a man drops into a saloon because he feels that he could recover from mental or physical fatigue if he had but one drink of beer or whiskey and leaves the saloon drunk because he had the misfortune to meet a friend or friends there. Not every man is so constituted that one drink starts him on a carouse, but it is the habit of "treating" that makes so many drunkards. Neither treat nor accept a treat—or else get on the water wagon and stay on.

To promote interest in the growing of corn in Marion county and with a view of producing a larger and better grade of corn, Dr. J. C. Boozer of Ocala is offering a cash prize for the best specimens of corn at the Marion County Fair to be held next December. Much interest has been manifested in this contest, and a large number of people have signified their intention of competing. Dr. Boozer also agrees to furnish the seed. In addition to this offer to stimulate action along agricultural lines, Dr. Boozer will also give a cash prize to the boy or girl who writes the best essay on George Washington and his mother. This offer is open to all school children in the county.

The same trouble appears this year in the early tomato market that was complained of last year in the orange market—much of the crop is picked too green. This keeps the price for tomatoes down, though it is still true that a crate of well-matured tomatoes unmixed with green ones—in other words, ready to be sold upon arrival at the market—will command top prices.

De Soto county made a fine show at the State fair at Tampa, winning the great prize and a sectional prize besides, the total number of points awarded that county being 1,017. The next highest were Hernando county, with 635 points, and Polk, with 483 points, and Manatee, with 409. Washington county, in the West, came out with 383 points.

Eight thousand, four hundred and sixty-four buildings erected in Jacksonville since the great fire of May 3, 1901, up to March 1. See Jacksonville grow!

"Buck" Crows, a United States deputy marshal, who has for years hunted moonshiners, in Pensacola district is dead at his home in Bonifay as a result of a gun-shot wound, which he received accidentally while on his way with others to raid a gang of moonshiners.

St. Petersburg is generous. It gives the county seat of the proposed new county of Pinellas to Clearwater as the most central point. As St. Petersburg has the largest population of any of the municipalities on that sub-peninsular, this should settle the matter. The next thing is to get the new county.

Kills Would-Be Slayer.

A merciless murderer is appendicitis with many victims. But Dr. King's New Life Pills kill it by prevention. They gently stimulate stomach, liver and bowels, preventing that clogging that invites appendicitis, curing Constipation, Bilioussness, Chills, Malaria, Headache and Indigestion. 25c at S. W. Rowley's.

HIRE OF STATE CONVICTS

Farm Suggested for Women and Infirm Men.

SOME NEEDED REFORMS

Only Able Bodied Male Prisoners Should Be Leased and Would Be Worth More to Convict Contractors.

Tallahassee, Fla.—In his inaugural address, Governor Gilchrist gave strong approval to the suggestion made by the commissioner of agriculture that those state convicts who are women, and infirm men should not be leased out to contractors, but should be detained on a farm, or at some other employment owned and operated by the state, and expressed the hope that this suggestion would be enacted into law.

This movement is making progress. The schedule of requirements adopted by the board of commissioners of state institutions—which is composed of the governor and his entire cabinet—with which the contractor for the lease of all state convicts for the four years beginning January 1, 1910, must comply, contain the following provision:

"Anyone presenting a bid for the hire of state prisoners is required to name therein the capita per annum price, he or they agree to pay the state of Florida for all state prisoners subject to all of the above conditions, with the express understanding and agreement that the board of commissioners of state institutions shall, if authorized by law, have the right, at any time they may desire, to withdraw from said lease all women and invalid male prisoners, and from the time of the withdrawal of said women and invalid male prisoners, the lessees shall pay 15 per cent additional, on the per capita amount of said bid, as made under the terms and specifications herein set forth.

"The commissioner of agriculture and the board of commissioners of state institutions will increase the per capita price per annum by 15 per cent on all prisoners not so withdrawn from said lease.

"The commissioner of agriculture and board of commissioners of state institutions reserve the right to modify any contract for the hire of state prisoners, to the extent of leasing only those capable of performing reasonable service at manual labor."

The proposal to detain women and infirm male prisoners on a state farm, thus forming a nucleus for a state penitentiary proper, now awaits only the necessary authority of legislative action, which it is believed will be given at the approaching session.

The proposal to detain the weaker classes of prisoners on a state farm should be as acceptable to prospective lessees, for business reasons, as it is to right-thinking citizens, for humanitarian reasons. Lessees would then secure only able-bodied male prisoners, who would be much more valuable to them, and for whose labor they would naturally be willing to pay a larger per capita price than is now paid per capita for the whole body of prisoners, men and women, weak and strong. The revenue of the state would thus be fully protected and a great reform in prison management instituted.

The convicts have been leased to the Florida Pine Company.

It Saved His Leg.

"All thought I'd lose my leg," writes J. A. Swenson, Watertown, Wis. "Ten years of eczema, that 15 doctors could not cure, had at last laid me up. Then Bucklen's Arnica Salve cured it sound and well." Infallible for Skin Eruptions, Eczema, Salt Rheum, Boils, Fever Sores, Burns, Scalds, Cuts and Piles. 25c at S. W. Rowley's.

STATE SOLDIERS VIOLATE OATH.

Disposition Among Soldiers to Disregard Obligations.

St. Augustine, Fla.—There has been a general disposition in the military service of the state to treat too lightly the obligations involved in the oath of enlistment.

Many enlisted men of the Florida state troops have enlisted in the regular army without formally obtaining discharges from the state militia.

H. R. Turner, who deserted from the state militia was dishonorably discharged from the U. S. army.

Deafness Cannot be Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portions of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, Deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by Catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Halls' Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Sold by Druggists, 75c.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

ST. PETERSBURG WINS.

Will Get Half of Road and Brigade Money.

St. Petersburg, Fla.—By the ruling of the highest court, St. Petersburg will get road and bridge money collected within her limits. It means \$2,500 for the city at the present time, and each succeeding year more than \$1,000 will be given her.

St. Petersburg is elated over winning the suit and will take her chances with the remainder of the county in getting better roads.

Near Death in Big Pond.

It was a thrilling experience to Mrs. Ida Soper to face death. "For years a severe lung trouble gave me intense suffering," she writes, "and several times nearly caused my death. All remedies failed and doctors said I was incurable. Then Dr. King's New Discovery brought quick relief and a cure so permanent that I have not been troubled in twelve years." Mrs. Soper lives in Big Pond, Pa. It works wonders in Coughs and Colds, Sore Lungs, Hemorrhages, LaGrippe, Asthma, Croup, Whooping Cough and all Bronchial affections. 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free. Guaranteed by S. W. Rowley.

The word "wonderful" will soon have to be dropped from our vocabulary.

The Lurid Glow of Doom

was seen in the red face, hands and body of the little son of H. M. Adams, of Henrietta, Pa. His awful plight from eczema had, for five years, defied all remedies and baffled the best doctors, who said the poisoned blood had affected his lungs and nothing could save him. "But," writes his mother, "seven bottles of Electric Bitters completely cured him." For Eruptions, Eczema, Salt Rheum, Sores and all Blood Disorders and Rheumatism Electric Bitters is supreme. Only 50c. Guaranteed by S. W. Rowley.

It is the emotional man who makes most of the emotions in a public meeting.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the

Signature of J. C. Watson

The best work on citrus fruits, published so far as we have seen is by Professor J. H. Hume, clothbound, price \$1.00. If you want to know more of orange growing send for a copy to John, San Mateo, Fla.

FOUND.

One of the best houses to handle shipments of oranges and vegetables. Write them today. They are HEWITT & COMPANY, 10 East Camden St., Baltimore, Md.